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A GUIDE TO
MADURAI

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K. P. APPAN

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A VERY USEFUL HAND-BOOK

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A GUIDE TO
MADURAI

K. P. APPAN

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MADURAI

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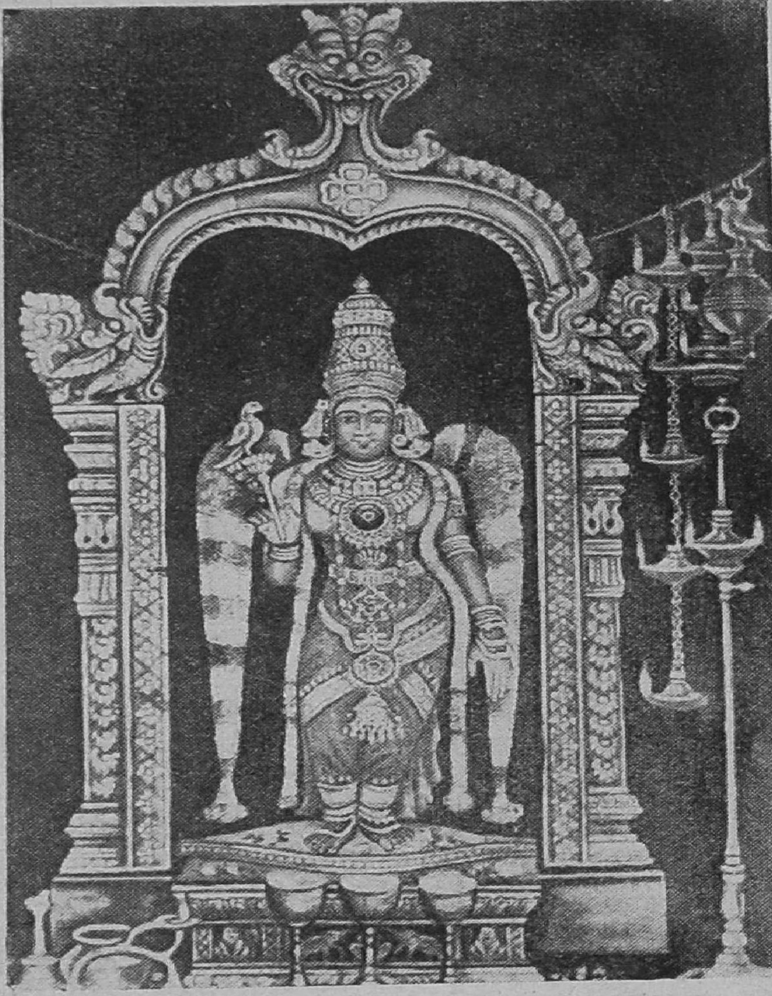
GODDESS OF LEARNING

An elegant stone carving
at Thousand Paillared Mandapam

(See Page 16)



GODDESS SREE MEENAKSHI
RULING DIETY OF THE CITY

This picture is a representation of the idol of Sree Meenakshi as found at the innermost shrine of the temple where only temple priests are allowed. However all Hindus are allowed to go up to few yards of the diety. Non-Hindus have no such facilities

A Guide To
MADURAI

HISTORY

Madurai is the oldest city in South India. It has been for the last 2500 years the focal centre of Dravidian culture and civilization. Foreigners refer to this city as the Athens of South India. Madurai means *Sweet City*.

The History of Madurai is the history of South India. Pandyan Kings ruled Madurai from earliest times. Vijaya the first king of Ceylon (500 B. C.) was a son-in-law of a Pandyan king. The city was well known to ancient Greeks and Romans. Megasthanes, the great ambassador at the court of Chundragupta Maurya (320 B. C.) visited the city. Ptolemy refers to Madurai in his

Tables. A Pandyan King sent an ambassador to the court of Augustus in 27 B. C. Roman coins of the time of Augustus were discovered at Madurai in recent times.

The splendour of the Pandyan Kingdom was well described by the great traveller Marco Polo. According to him it stretched along the coast from Quilon to Nellore; it was called "*The Great India*"; was the best of all the Indies and indeed the finest and the noblest province in the world'; its rulers sent an embassy to the Mongol Emperor Kubla Khan in 1286, which is described in the Chinese annals. Marco Polo describes with admiration the port of Kayal Patnam (Tirunelveli District). It was the centre of a very large sea-borne trade which the Pandyans actively encouraged and which made them widely known. He says that all the ships from the west touched at Kayal and the contemporary Persian historian Wassaf states in a flowery passage that all the products of India and China were constantly arriving there and that all the splendour of the west was derived from the Pandya realm 'which is so situated as to be the key of Hind" (*Madurai District Gazetteer*)

Pandyan Kings were great patrons of learning. They were the founders of the well known Tamil Sangam (Tamil Academy)

Malikkafur, one of the generals of the Emperor Alla-ud-din of Delhi, invaded Madurai in 1310, and sacked the city and its great temple. A Muhammadan dynasty was then set up which ruled the city for nearly half a century.

Then the great Vijayanagar Hindu Emperor entered the arena. The Muhammadan rulers were overthrown and the city became a feudatory of the Vijayanagar Emperor (1365). He restored the Pandyan Kings to their ancient heritage.

The Credit goes to the Vijayanagar Empire for giving a succession of able Naick rulers to Madurai who brought peace and prosperity to the country for a period of two centuries (1559—1736.) Viswanatha Naick was the first and the greatest of the Naick rulers. Tirumalai Naick is better known today on account of his famous Palace and Pudumandapam which still exist. Mangammal was a remarkable Queen of the Naick dynasty. The well-laid High Ways of South India is still called as Mangammal High Ways. She constructed those roads with shady avenues. Mangammal was succeeded by several weak rulers, who were not able to hold the Empire together. On the whole the Naicks period may be called the golden period in the history of the modern Madurai.

In 1781 the British East India Company was charged for the first time with the task of collecting

revenue from Madurai country. Under the rule of the Britsh collectors the old city of Madurai and its fortifications were slowly demolished and ultimately razed to the ground in1840. This allowed the city to expand on all directions to the size of the present city.

The city was first constituted as a modern Municipality in 1866.

Madurai is the second largest city in the State of Madras in size and importance. With a population of 5,00,000 the city covers an area of nine square miles. The revenue of the Municipal Council is Rs. 96,38,000 and the expenditure Rs. 80,32,000. Madurai is not only an ever growing industrial, trade and educational centre but also a very renowned Hindu pilgrimage centre. Goddess Meenakshi is the ruling diety of the city. Since there are festivals in all the twelve months of the year the city is called as 'The City of Festivals'

A Statue OF THIRUMALAI NAICK
WITH HIS QUEENS

One of the stone pillars of Pudumandapam—the structure of which is remarkable of its kind in South India.

(See Page 22)

1

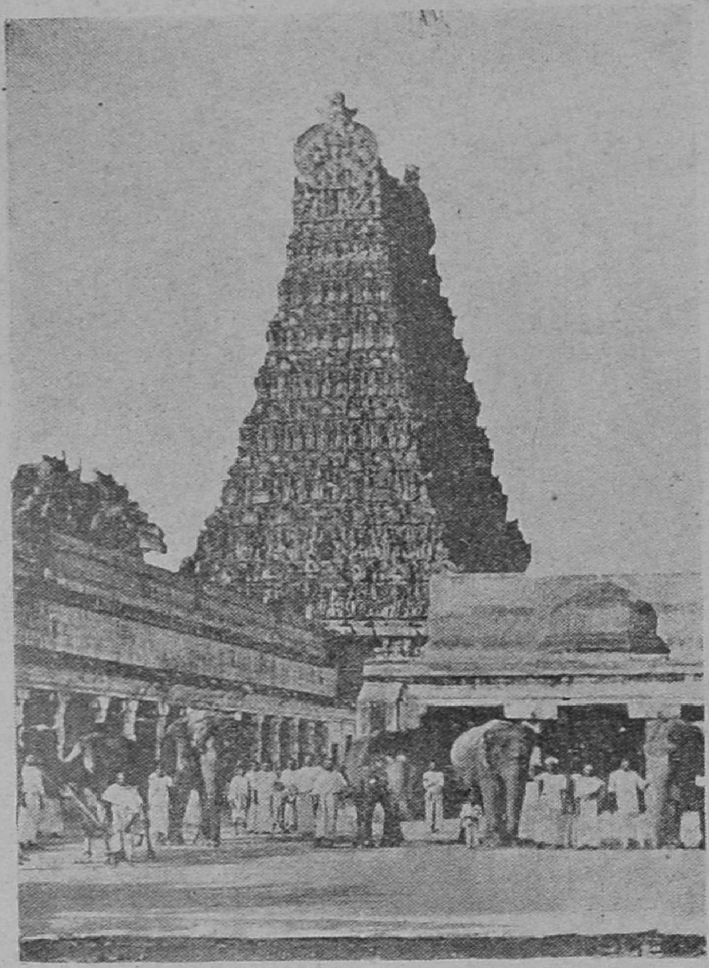
2

FOUR OF THE EIGHT STONE PILLARS OF DARK MANDAPAM EXECUTED WITH GREAT SPIRIT AND SKILL

3

4

The Figures represent 1. A GAY RISHI 2. VISHNU AS MOHINI
3. ANASUYA 4. SIVA as BIKSHATANAR.



THE SOUTHERN TOWER

The highest of all the nine towers of the temple, rises to 152 feet.

SREE MEENAKSHI TEMPLE

Sree Meenakshi Temple stands in the centre of the town. The four large towers of the temple catch the eye the very moment one approaches the city. The roads in Madurai are laid out on parallel lines along the four sides of the temple and they are called after the Tamil months.

The God in this temple is Siva in Linga form called Sundarar (the beautiful) and Goddess is Meenakshi (The Fish eyed). Meenakshi was the daughter of a Pandya Ruler and was born with three breasts. A fairy, however, told the king that the third breast would disappear as soon as she met her future husband; and it so happened when she first encountered Siva. They were wedded accordingly. In order to bless His devotees Lord Siva performed 64 miracles in this city. Those favoured devotees include not only men and women of all castes but also beasts and birds.

The *Sthala puranam* describes all these miracles in detail. Most of the sculptures and paintings found in the temple are illustrating those divine plays of Lord Siva.

The temple forms a rectangle of 847 feet by 792 feet. It is estimated that the temple costs altogether about 12 million rupees and took 120 years to complete.

TOWERS

There are nine towers in the temple. The four outer towers are most significant. The rows of figures in the towers illustrate the puranic stories. The southern tower is the highest of all and rises to 152 feet..

MAIN ENTRANCE

Visitors generally enter the temple through the Eastern main entrance 'Amman Sannathi'

The first Mandapam is called Ashta Sakti mandapam - the porch of eight energies in the form of goddesses; The eight Sakti images are installed, four on either side of the mandapam. The paintings on the roof of the mandapam tell the story of the birth, child-hood, conquests and coronation of Sree Meenakshi.

MEENAKSHI NAICK MANDAPAM

Next we enter into a big mandapam supported by six rows of tall carved pillars, each of which is made of a single stone. This was built by Meenakshi Naick, who was one of the Ministers of Thirumalai Naick (1623 - 59). Formerly this was used as a stable for temple elephants. Now it is used as a bazaar for flowers and toys. At the further end of this mandapam is a doorway surrounded with a brass frame covered with 1008 small oil lamps which are lighted daily.

DARK MANDAPAM

Beyond this is a dark mandapam called the Mudaliar - Pillai mandapam where there are two rows of stone figures executed with great spirit and skill. (For details see page 6 & 7)

GOLDEN LILY TANK

Passing through the dark mandapam one reaches the Golden Lily Tank (See page 8) surrounded by a Pillared Colonnade. The Northern and Eastern walls of the Colonnade are decorated with paintings representing the 64 miracles performed by Lord Siva. One of the 64 miracles is the granting the prayer of a Heron. The Heron prayed to keep the Golden Lily Tank free from fishes, inorder to prevent the possibility of committing sin by catching fishes in that holy tank, by other fellow birds. Strangely even today no fish inhabit this holy tank.

From Eastern side we can have a fine view of the two Golden Towers which are just above the shrines of Sri Meenakshi and Sundarar.

SOUTHERN SIDE

On the southern wall the immortal Couplets of Saint Thiruvalluvar—Thirukkural—are carved on white marble.

WESTERN SIDE

On the western side of the tank is a little Chapel like balcony built by Queen Mangammal

(1689—1704) On the vault of the roof one can see the picture of Mangammal and her minister painted.

PARROT CAGE - MANDAPAM

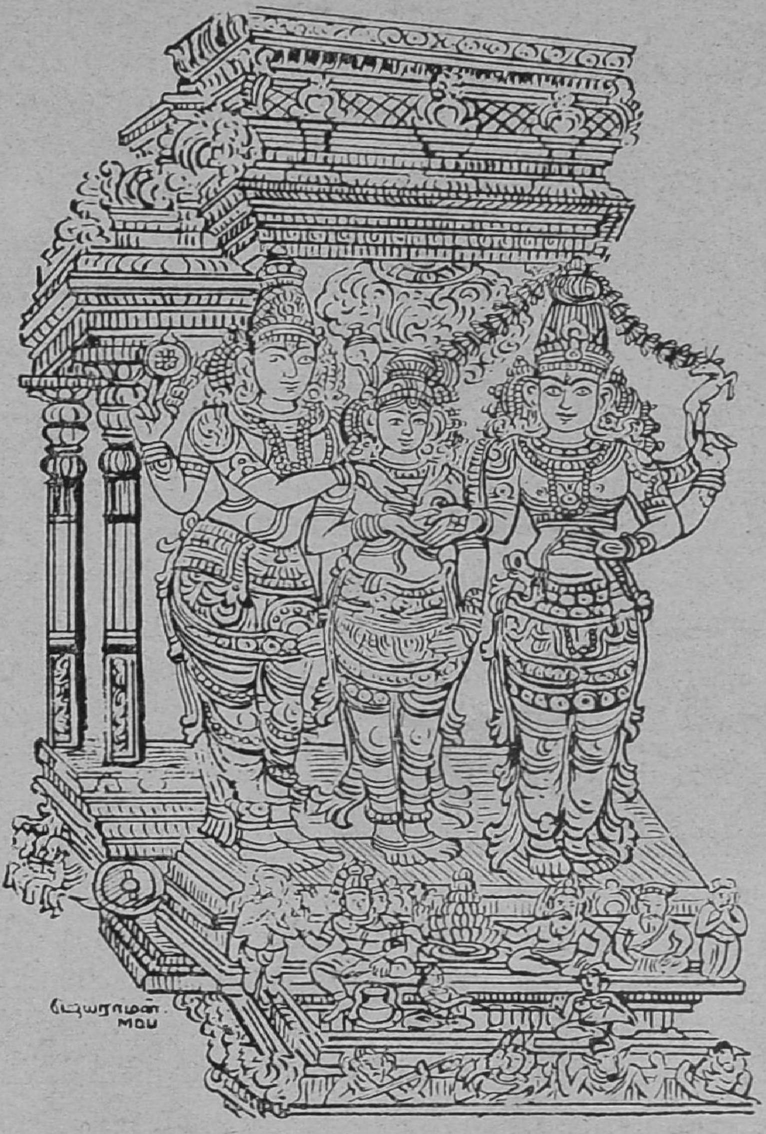
Kilikootu Mandapam (Parrot Cage Mandapam) so called from the screaming caged parrots kept in it. It is up held by pillars formed of excellent statues each cut out of a single block of granite. The Statues represent the heroes of the Great Indian epic Mahabarata—The five Pandava Brothers and their wife Dhrowpathi. The more appropriate place for these statues are a Vaishnava temple than a Saiva temple like this. Perhaps the Naick Rulers wanted to impress the people that there is no distinction between the two.

SREE MEENAKSHI SHRINE

The gate at the Centre of the Kilikootu Mandapam on the western side is the entrance to Shrine of Goddess Meenakshi and the inner Corridor. Non-Hindus are not allowed beyond this entrance (See page 5) On the south-east corner of the inner corridor stands the statue of Tirumalai Naick with his two wives, well painted.

BIG PILLAIYAR

The entrance at the north of Kilikootu Mandapam leads to the southern outer corridor of Lord Siva's shrine. At the entrance we see a big idol of Sri Ganapathi (Elephant headed God) who is

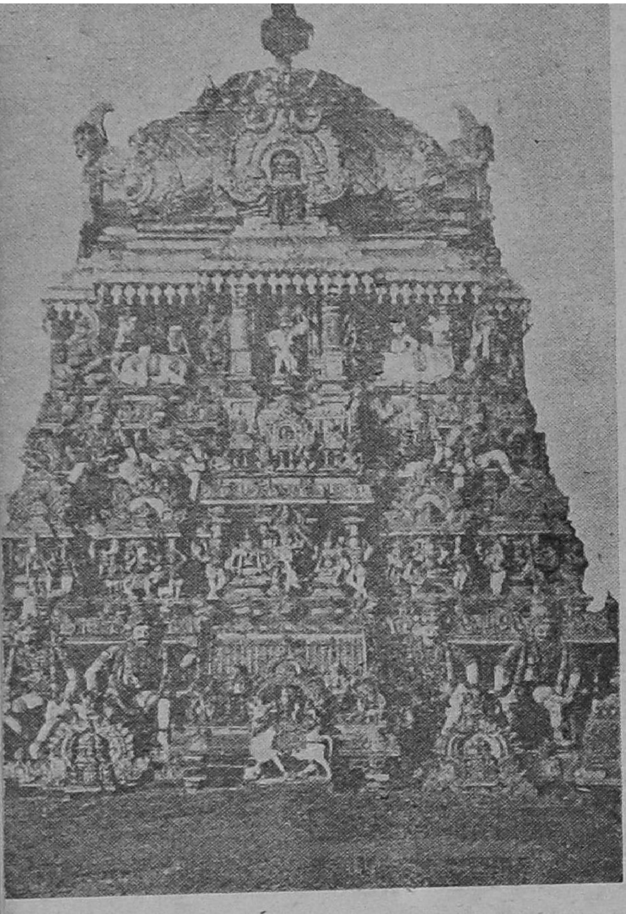


WEDDING OF SREE MEENAKSHI
AND SUNDARAR

An elaborately chiselled monolithic pillar at

FLAG STAFF MANDAPAM

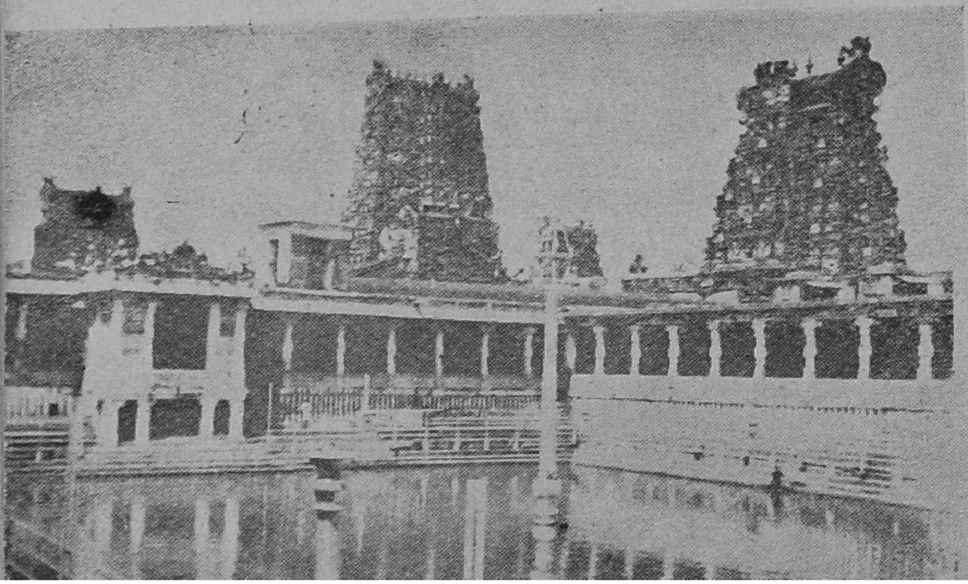
(See Page 14)



GOLDEN
TOWER
←

(See Page 11)

GOLDEN
LILY TANK
↓



familiarly known as Mukkurini Arisi Pillaiyar (Twelve-Measure—Rice Pillaiyar) This idol is said to have been unearthed by Tirumalai Naick while digging the Big Tank at the eastern end of the city.

TAMIL SANGAM

At the north western corner of the colonnade surrounding Siva's shrine is the little chapel of the 49 Poets of the famous Tamil Sangam (A body of learned men similar to French Academy). The Sangam was founded by Pandyan Rulers. There were three Sangams and the last one was in existence at 200 B. C. The Sangam sat in judgement on Tamil literary works submitted for their approval, without which no composition could hope for any kind of public receiption.

At present as a lineal descendent of that renowned Tamil Sangam, a New Sangam was established in 1901 by Sri Pandidurai Thevar, a learned scholar and a member of the Royal House of Ramanathapuram. This Sangam is situated at Tamil Sangam Road near Tilak Square. A College, for oriental studies, a valuable big Library and a Literary monthly magazine are now run by this Sangam under the able guidance of Sir P. T. Rajan (Bar-at-law) a member of the Madras Legislative Council and an ex-minister of the Government of

Madras. The President of India Dr. Rajendra Prasad, is the chief Patron of this Sangam.

FLAG STAFF MANDAPAM

Facing the entrance of Siva's Shrine is Kambathadi (Flag staff) mandapam. This has been erected about 100 Years ago by Nattukkottai Chettiar devotees. This Mandapam is supported by eight monolithic pillars, perhaps more elaborately chiselled than any thing else in this temple. Here we see the skill of the Tamilian Sculptors even as late as 1870. In the middle of the Mandapam is the flag staff. In front of it a Nandi (Bull) is installed in a small mandapam. This nandi and the entire mandapam are cut out of a single block of granite stone. The elegant stone carvings found in this small mandapam would make one wonder whether it is carved out of wood.

The workmanship on all sides of the eight outer pillars, make them probably the greatest trimph of Stone carving to be found anywhere in the world. The Wedding of Sree Meenakshi and Sundareswarer, The killing of Yama, The Dance of Nataraja, Ravana raising the mount Kailas, Half man (Siva) and half woman (Parvathi) in one image, Siva and Vishnu in one image are some of the best among them.

East of this mandapam are four huge images of Siva Dancing, Goddess Kali and of Veerabadra in two poses each cut out of single block of stone.

On the western side of the Flagstaff mandapam is the entrance to the Siva's shrine. The entrance is guarded on either side by two huge images of Dwarapalas (Watch men). These images are the biggest in the temple and are cut out of a single rock of granite. These images are standing without any support at the top. (Non-Hindus are not allowed beyond this entrance.)

SIVA'S SHRINE

Siva's shrine contains several subsidiary buildings. A stump of an ancient kadamba tree is preserved. It is the only remains of the legendary Kadamba forest where the Linga image of Sundarar was originally found and worshiped by Indra the king of Devas. Images of 63 Saivite Saints; Festival dieties of Sree Meenakshi and Sundarar are enshrined in the inner corridor.

NADARAJA (DANCING SIVA)

The Famous Silver hall (Velliambalam) with Lord Siva in the form of Nataraja (dancing pose) is on the right side of the inner Hall facing South. A peculiarity of this Nadaraja is that Siva has His right leg lifted instead of His left leg as seen in all other temples. A legend says that He Changed His leg at this place to satisfy the prayer of one of His ardent devotees.

TEMPLE JEWELS

A Safe valet for Temple Jewels is with in this innershrine. The Jewels are exibited to the public on a payment of Rs. 20/- There are many old valuable jewels of very great historic importance. One of the Jewels and a Pearl Carpet were taken to England by Edward VII when he visited India as Prince of Wales to be shown to Queen Victoria and returned thereafter.

The Temple posseses a number of Silver and Golden Vahanams (Animals, birds etc over which the Festival Diety is taken round) A fee of Rs. 2/- is fixed for exhibiting the same by Temple authorities.

MARRIAGE HALL

From the Flag Staff Mandapam if we go out through the entrance at the east and turn to the south we see the beautiful Kalyana Mandapam (Marriage Hall) Here the marriage of Siva and Meenakshi is celebrated every year during the great Chitra Festival (April - May).

THOUSAND PILLARED MANDPAM

On the norther side of the Marriage Hall is the Thousand Pillared Mandapam-the wonder of the temple. Mr. Fergusson the auther of '*Indian and Eastern Architecture*' writes that "the sculptures (found here) surpass those of any other

GODDESS OF LOVE

A delicately chiselled stone Pillar at Thousand Pillared Mandapam representing Rathi seated on a swan,

(See Page 16)

NATARAJA

KALI

Two stone Pillars at Pudumandapam.

(See Page 22)

ARDHANARI

HALF SIVA and HALF PARVATI indicating the inseparable union of the masculine and the feminine elements in the creator.

(See Page 14)

A KORAVA

AND

HIS WIFE

Two Stone Pillars at Thousand Pillared Mandapam represent a hard working labourer, his wife and children in holiday mood.

(See Page 16)

Hall of its class I am acquainted with" The Hall is an engineering marvel. The Pillars will be found in a straight line when viewed from any angle. This was built by Ariyanatha Mudaliar who was the Prime Minister to Viswanatha Naick, the first of Naick Kings. Here we see many wonderful specimens of stone images, including one of Ariyanatha Mudaliar on horse back Many beautiful statues are found in this Hall

ADIVEETHI

The beautiful stone pavement encircling both shrines of Sree Meenakshi and Sundareswar, with in the compound walls of the Temple is called Adiveethi. It houses temple elephants, Offices of the temple and many religious and literary associations.

St. THIRUVALLUVAR SOCIETY

In the North Adiveethi there is a literary society called 'Thiruvalluvar Kazhagam' named after the great Poet Saint Thiruvalluvar (31 B.C.)— the author of the famous Thirukkural. Thirukkural contains 1330 couplets and has been acclaimed as the greatest book ever written on Ethics for all persons, irrespective of their religion, for all times. This master piece of the ancient Tamil original literature of the First Centuary B. C. has been translated into more than thirty lauguages of the

world. This Society is running a Library and conducting daily classes and weekly discourses on Thirukkural and other Tamil Literature.

MUSICAL PILLARS

East of Thiruvalluvar Society and just below the North Tower are kept five Pillars known as Musical Pillars. These Pillars each having many small pillars within are made out of one single stone. Each small pillar when struck with a hammer or stone will give different tones of the seven musical tunes, and so they are called Musical Pillars. Recently the artists of All India Radio successfully broadcasted a musical programme from the tunes of these pillars.

COMMUNITY PRAYER HALL

Just opposite to the Musical Pillars is a Small Tower and entrance which leads to a Mandapam called Karia Manikka Perumal Koil (a Vishnu Temple) now called as Koottuvazhi Pattu Mandapam (Community Prayer Hall) Here, community prayer is conducted on every Monday by His Holiness Madathipathi (Religious Head) of Sree Gnasambandar Mutt—The Oldest Saivite Mutt of South India.

PUDUMANDAPAM

Out side the Temple just opposite to Eastern tower is Pudumandapam (New Mandapam). This

was built by Thirumalai Naick. The Mandapam is 333 feet long and 105 feet wide. It is roofed with long slabs of granite which are supported by four parallel rows of 124 sculptured stone Pillars about 20 ft. high. The middle rows of Pillars are decorated with life size statues of Thirumalai Naick and his predecessors. The whole structure is perhaps the most remarkable of its kind in South India. The entire Mandapam is surrounded by a narrow stone water - course designed to cool the place, since this mandapam is used as a sort of summer retreat for Sree Meenakshi and Sundarar.

At present the Mandapam serves as a market for Cloths, Books and Household utensils etc. through which the Temple derives a considerable amount as rent.

RAYA GOPURAM

East of Pudumandapam is the unfinished Tower Raya Gopuram (King of Towers) which was began by Thirumalai Naick in 64 different places but none was ever finished.

INCOME OF THE TEMPLE

The Temple owns about 60 villages, donated by Kings, Jamindars and Rich Land lords. There are many buildings in the Town also. The approximate income of this temple and the various sub-temples attached to it is about 4 lakhs.

ANNUAL FESTIVALS

April - May	—The Grand Chitra (Marriage of Sree Meenakshi and the Big Car Procession)	—12 days
May - June	—Vasantha (at Pudumandapam)	—10 ,,
June - July	—Unjal	—10 ,,
July - August	—Molakottu	—10 ,,
Aug - Sep	—Puttu	—18 ,,
Sep - Oct	—Navarathiri	— 9 ,,
Oct - Nov	—Kolattam	— 6 ,,
Nov - Dec	—Karthigai	—10 ,,
Dec - Jan	—Ennaikappu	— 9 ,,
Jan - Feb	—Floating (at the Big Teppakulam)	—12 ,,
Feb - March	—Mandalam	—42 ,,
March - April	—Kodai Vasantham	—10 ,,

Thus there are 158 days of festival every year and so Madurai rightly deserves the name of 'The City of Festivals'

திருவள்ளுவநாயனார்

POET SAINT THIRUVALLUVAR
OF THE FIRST CENTURY B. C.

The Author of tne immortal 1330 TAMIL COUPLETS-THIRUKKURAL, which has been translated into more than 30 languages of the world and acclaimed as the greatest Book of Ethics ever written. THIRUKKURAL is the VEDA of TAMILS.

(See Page 21)

THIRUMALAI NAICK'S
PALACE

THE PALACE OF TIRUMALAI NAICK

The Palace, as it stands today, is only a very small portion of the original one, which was destroyed by Thirumalai Naick's own grand son Chokkanatha Naick (1662—82). He changed his head quarters from Madurai to Thiruchirapalli. So he foolishly wanted to take with him the best portions of the Palace and hence the destruction.

At present the palace accomodates all the Civil and Criminal Courts of the two districts of Madurai and Ramanathapuram. The Palace which now survives consists of two oblong blocks running east west connected at one corner.

THE MAIN BLOCK

The larger block consists of a great open courtyard 252 feet long and 151 feet wide, round which runs a beautiful roofed arcade. The arcade was supported by stone pillars 40 feet in height and foliated brick arches of much elegance, ornamented with Dravidian designs and furnished in fine shell lime plaster which almost resembles marble.

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

At the back of the arcade, runs a very handsome line of lofty cloister, 43 feet wide and upheld by three parallel rows of pillars supporting arches, some 26 feet high. At present these are partitioned by walls and converted into courts and office rooms. In the middle of the southern and northern sides are two large domes and an upper gallery runs all round it. On the western side of the court, the cloister is much deeper and finer, being altogether 105 feet wide supported by five rows of huge pillars and roofed with three great domes; The central dome, the largest in the palace, measures 60 feet in diameter and is 73 feet above the ground. This hall is called Swarga Vilas and was used as Dharbar Hall where the king used to give audience to his subjects and visitors. In front of this stands a magnificient portico, the pillars of which are 55 feet high to the spring of the arches.

THE SECOND BLOCK

The second block in the Palace is 135 feet long, 67 feet wide and about 70 feet high. "It posseses" writes Fergusson "all the structural propriety and character of a Gothic building. The roof is a pointed arch of brick work strengthened by granite ribs springing from a double series, one above the other, of other pointed arches supported on columns. Behind the upper series of these arches runs a gallery resembling a triforium

of an English Cathedral" This hall was Thirumalai Naick's sleeping apartment. From the roof of the Palace one can have a bird's eye view of the city.

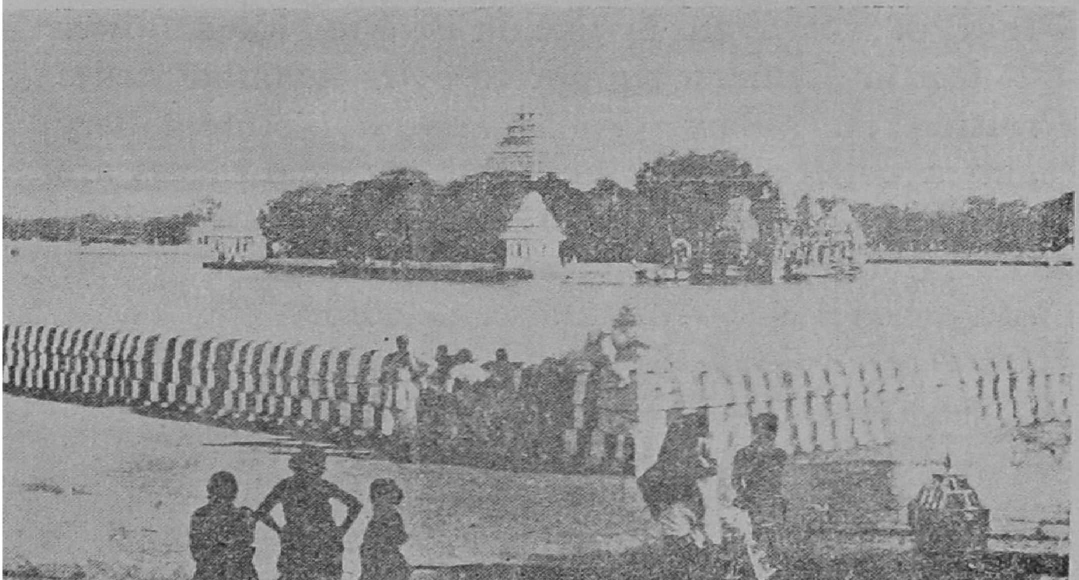
This Palace was almost in ruins when the British took possession of the city. It was due to Lord Napier's personal effort, who was then the Governor of Madras (1888), a sum of Rs. 500,000 was spent by the Government to repair and restore the palace to its present state.

THE BIG TANK

The big tank is called Mariamman Teppakulam because of the nearby temple of Goddess Mariamman. It is an artificial reservoir built by Tirumalai Naick. The tank was the spot at which the bricks for the Palace of Thirumalai Naick were made. When the clay for the bricks was being dugout, a big stone image of Pillayar (Elephant headed god) was found buried under the ground. That Pillayar was enstalled at Sree Meenakshi Temple, now known as Mukkuruni arisi Pillayar. Thus the excavation made for the purpose of making bricks was turned into a beautiful Tank by Thirumalai Naick.

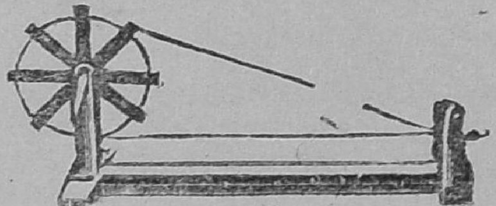
The tank is almost a square measuring 1000 feet by 950 feet It is the largest construction of its kind in South India. In the middle of the tank is a square island, on which among green palms and flowering trees is a small white temple with towers facing all the four sides. There are four graceful little mandapams on the four corners of the island. The whole stucture is exceedingly well proportioned and graceful in effect.

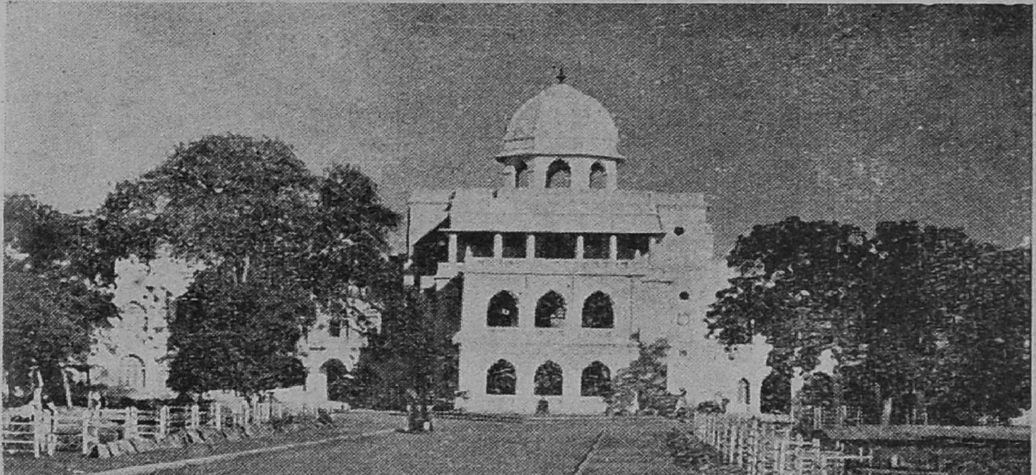
Every year on the Fullmoon day of the month of Thai (January - February) the images of Sree Meenakshi and Sundarar are taken round this tank on a beautifully-decorated float made of bamboos and flowers. On that festival day the Tank will be illuminated all round with thousands of oil lamps. This Festival was originated by Thirumalai Naick to celebrate his birthday every year.



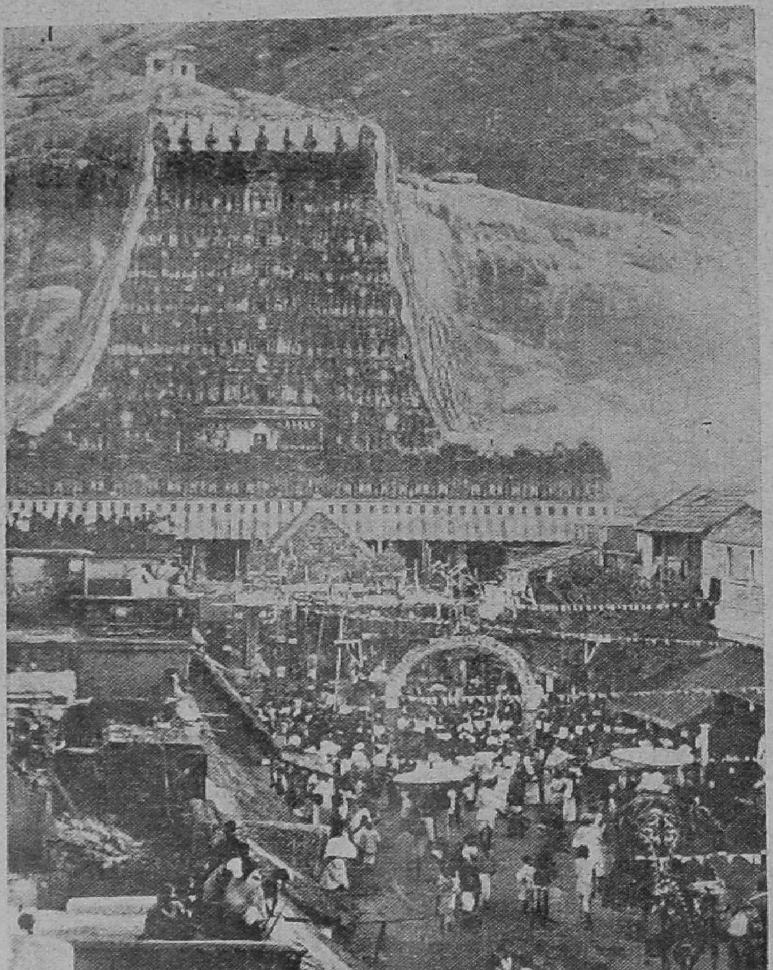
GANDHI MEMORIAL NATIONAL MUSEUM

In memory of Mahatma Gandhi—the Father of the nation, a Museum was opend at Tumkam. An old palace built by Mangammal, a Naick queen of Madurai, was improved at a very great cost to house this Museum. This building was the summer residence of the queen. The noteworthy feature of the building is the "Lotus Hall". The roof of the Hall is like an inverted lotus flower 21 feet in diameter supported by crenellated arches resting on pillars. A Library, a picture gallery and a collection of Gandhiji's personal things are exibited so tastefully to give the visitor an idea of the teachings and the life of the great apstole of Non-violence—Mahatama Gandhi.





GANDHI MEMORIAL NATIONAL MUSEUM.



TIRUPARANKUNDRAM TEMPLE.

OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST

TIRUPARANKUNDRAM is a village about 5 miles from Madurai. It is one of the six sacred places of Lord Muruga. The Temple is at the foot of a Hill. It was built around the inner-most shrine which is cut out of the solid rock of the hill about 100 feet from the ground. So if we want to go round the diety we have to go round the hill itself. The temple contains several historical inscriptions.

There is an Ancient Cave temple on the Sothern side of the hill. It is preserved by the Government under the Ancient Monuments preservation Act. There is also a tomb of a Muslim Fakir at the top of the Hill considerd as sacred by Muslims.

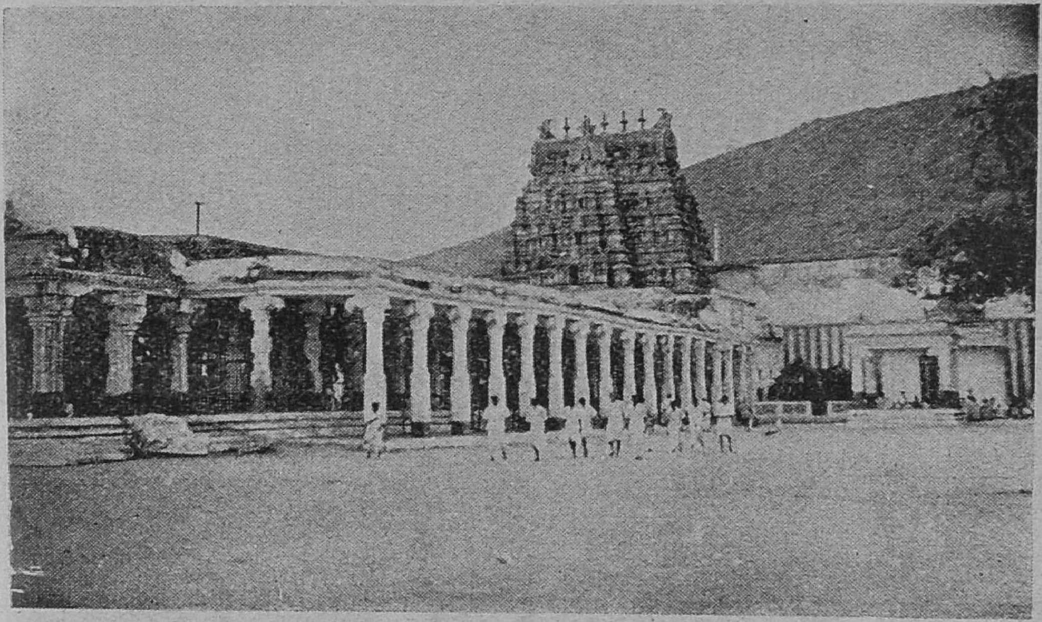
ALAGAR KOIL

Alagarkoil is twelve miles from Madurai. It is situated amidst very picturesque surroundings at the foot of a chain of green mountains, 900 feet above the sea level. This is another of the six sacred places of Lord Muruga. At present there is only the big temple of Sri Kallalagar—Mahavishnu. The History of this temple, like that of Madurai

Temple is almost connected with the history of the country. It is a temple fort. The Mandapams, Towers, Fort walls were constructed by Pandyans, Pallavas, Cholas and Nayaks. The temple itself is a treasure house of Architectural Sculptural and Ivory works of art. An ivory Vimanam, the biggest of its kind in the world and an work of great skill is inside the temple. Some specimens of the ivory work of this Vimanam can be seen at the Temple Museum.

Two miles up the hill there is a holy bathing place amidst natural surroundings.

The festival of this temple is closely connected with the festival of Sree Meenakshi Temple at Madurai. During the Marriage festival of Sree Meenakshi and Sundarar (April-May) Sree Alagar visits Madurai. He was carried in a palanquin all the twelve miles halting at every Mandapam on the road side. This is the biggest festival of Madurai and attracts over three lakhs of pilgrims every year.



ALAGARKOIL

TWO OF THE MANY
ELABORATELY DESIGNED
STONE PILLARS
AT
ALAGARKOIL TEMPLE
Depicting SREE VISHNU in
TWO AVADHARS

Some Useful Informations

(Phone numbers are given in brackets wherever available. Distances given are from Railwaystation.)

WHERE TO STAY AT MADURAI

Western Style:

1. Retiring Rooms, Railway Station.
2. English Club, Race course, Tallakulam
   3½ miles (3117)
3. Circuit House, Race course, Tallakulam
   3½ miles (3055)
4. Municipal Traveller's Bungalow ½ mile (116)

Indian Style

5. Meenakshi Nilayam at Central Bus stand
   2 Furlongs (692)
6. Mangammal choultries opp. to Railway station (1 Furlong)
7. Kunnathur Sambian choultry near temple
   1 Mile
8. Marvari Free choultry (only for Marvaris)
   2 Furlongs

Boarding & lodging Houses

1. Udipi Boarding & Lodging West Masi St.
   ½ mile (137)

2. College House Town Hall Road
2 Furlongs (436)

3. Mani's Boarding & Lodging 2 Furlongs (19)

4. Modern Cafe—Perumal Teppakulam street
3 Furlongs (248)

5. Hotel Midland—Dhanappa Mudali St. ½ mile.

SERVICE CLUBS

1. ROTARY CLUB:

Meets at 5-30 P. M. on Tuesdays, and at 8-15 P. M. on last Tuesday at Udipi Boarding & Lodging, West Masi St. Madurai.

LIONS CLUB:

Meets on 2nd Thursday at 8-15 P. M. and on 4th Thursday at 5-30 P. M. at Thiagarajar College of Preceptors, Teppakulam.

HOSPITALS

1. Erskine Hospital (3052)
2. Willis F. The Christian Mission Hospital (92)

CHEMISTS & DRUGGISTS

1. SP. M. Medical Mart
East Chitrai Street (232)

2. Murugan Medical Stores
26-B West Tower St. (618)

3. T. N. C. Nagalingam Pillai,
North Chitrai Street (129)

4. Shankar & Co.
108, West Masi Street (449)

AUTOMOBILE SERVICE STATIONS

1. T. V. Sundaram Iyengar & Sons Ltd.,
South Veli Street (290)

2. K. Nataraja Pillai & Co.
Alagarkoil road, Tallakulam (3127)

3. G. N. Chakrapani Chetty & Sons Ltd.
Tamil Sangam road (529)

4. AR. A. Shenbaga Nadar &
P. V. P. Valasubramania Nadar
Tirupparankundram road (390)

5. George Oakes Ltd.
Krishna Rao tank St. (245)

TRAVEL AGENCIES

1. South India Travel Agency
50, West Sandaipettai St. (345)

2. Indian Air Lines
West Sandaipettai St. (795)

3. Tourist information officer.

BANKS

1. State Bank of India
West Veli Street (27)

2. Indian Bank Ltd.,
East Avani Moola Street (133)

3. Bank of Madura Ltd.,
East Avani Moola Street (328)

4. Punjab National Bank Ltd.,
South Avani Moola Street (168)

5. United Commercial Bank Ltd.,
90/92 East Avani Moola Street (10)

6. Pandyan Bank Ltd.,
North Chitrai Street (384)

7. Indian Overseas Bank Ltd.,
East Avani Moola Street (272)

8. Indo-Commercial Bank Ltd.,
South Avani Moola Street (83)

9. Madura District Central
Co-operative Bank Ltd.,
North Veli Street (134)

10. Central Bank of India Ltd.,
Meenakshi Street (132)

COLLEGES

1. Thiagarajar College,
Ramnad Road (175)

2. Thiagarajar College
of Preceptors, Ramnad Road

3. Thiagarajar College of Engineering
Tirupparankundram
(Above three Colleges are under the Management of A Trust founded by the great philanthropist Sree Karumuthu Thiagarajan Chettiar, Managing Director of Sree Meenakshi Mills Ltd., etc.)

4. American College
Tallakulam (3105)
(Managed by American Mission)

5. Madura College
Tirupparankundram road (454)
(Managed by a College Board)

6. Sentamil College
for Oriental Studies, Tamil Sangam Road,
(Managed by Madurai Tamil Sangam)

7. Madurai Medical College (3083
Gandhinagar (Managed by State Govt.)

8. Tamil Nad Polytechnic
Tirupparankundram Road
(Managed by State Govt.)

9. Lady Doak College, Tallakulam (3032)
(Managed by American Mission)

10. Fatima College
Mary Land, Vilangudi
(Managed by Catholic Mission)

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NOS.

Fire	99
Ambulance	99, 28, 3052
Police	9, 26, 3015, 3019
Postal Enquiries	400
Railway Enquiries	179
South India Travel Agency	345
Indian Air lines	795
Telegraph Enquiries	3039
Telephone Enquiries	100
Sree Meenakshi Temple	47
Tirupparankudram Temple	98
Municipal Office	61
Madurai Collector's Office	3001

TABLE OF DISTANCES

FROM / TO	Ry. STATION	TEMPLE	PALACE	TEPPAKULAM	G. MUSEUM	T. P. KUNDRAM	ALAGARKOIL	AIR PORT
Ry. STATION	*	½	1½	3	3	5	12	7
TEMPLE	½	*	1	2½	2½	5	12	7
PALACE	1½	1	*	2½	2½	5½	12½	6½
TEPPAKULAM	3	2½	2½	*	3	7	14	10
G. MUSEUM	3	2½	2½	3	*	7	11	10
T. P. KUNDRAM	5	5	5½	7	7	*	17	12
ALAGARKOIL	12	12	12½	14	11	17	*	19
AIR PORT	7	7	6½	10	10	12	19	*

Distances are given in miles.

Tel: 345 CONTACT Grams: SITAVIMANI

SOUTH INDIAN TRAVEL AGENCY

50, Sandaipettai Street, MADURA, S. I.

FOR

AN INSTRUCTIVE, ILLUSTRATIVE
& ILLUMINATING

TOUR OF SOUTH INDIA

OF CONSIDERABLE

Architectural - Archaelogical - Historical Value -
Health Resorts - Sight - Seeing Spots -
Pilgrim Centres

**Reception —Accomodation—
Boarding Transport—Arranged**

ASSIST RESERVATION:
RAIL, AIR, SEA PASSAGE

*Efficient — Economical—Safe
Reliable Service.*

REPRESENTATION OF FOREIGN
TRAVEL FIRMS ACCEPTED.

Please ask for detailed information

V. R. S. MANI,
Proprietor.

LOYAL TEXTILE MILLS, LIMITED.

Telegrams:
"MILLS" KOVILPATTI.

Telephone: Office. 66
Residence: 75

Authorised Capital	Rs.	1,00,00,000
Issued Capital	Rs.	50,00,000
Subscribed & Paid-Up Capital	Rs.	48,49,500

Total No. of Spindles: 30,542
Total No. of Looms: 224

(Additional 6,300 Spindles under order)

Manufacturers of:

SINGLE YARN 20s TO 60s COUNTS AND
GREY GADAS ALSO SPINNING STAPLE FIBRE YARN

Registered Office and Mills at - KOVILPATTI

Managing Agents:

Thiagaraja Chetty & Sons, (Private) Ltd., Madurai.

SAROJA MILLS LIMITED

Singanallur — Coimbatore Dt.
Kappalur — Madurai Dt.

CAPITAL

AUTHORISED: Rs. 40 00 000, PAID UP: Rs. 10,18,000

TOTAL SPINDLES 35,480

Spinning Cotton yarn and staple fibre yarn
20s to 40s Single & Folded at Singanallur
80s and 100 (Combed) at Kappalur.

Managing Agents:

Thiagaraja Chetty & Sons (Private) Ltd.,
SINGANALLUR.

T'grams: "SAROJA" Coimbatore. T'phone: Office: 157
Res: 979
819

Thiagarajar Mills; Post Box No. 102, Madurai.
Tel: "THIAGARMILL" Madurai,

With best compliments

of

THE COLLEGE HOUSE

TOWN HALL ROAD

MADURAI

YOUR HOME NEEDS A

RITA

You have always looked for a
Sewing Machine that is smooth running,
efficient durable and, at the same time,
economical, Well, the RITA is just such a Machine
Buy one and sew for yourself.
A two year SERVICE GUARANTEE fully protects you.
There are four models to choose.

Easy Instalments

For Further particulars

Contact:

M/s. Uma Sewing Agencies,

Agents. for RITA Sewing Machines,

134, Netaji Road, MADURAI

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AERATED WATERS

VICTORIOUS IN EVERY MARKET!

KALI AERATED WATER WORKS

SPARKLING

BOVONTO

In south India KALI MARK'S renowned products continive their victorious progress so that 'No Quality like 'KALI MARK'S' Quality' has become a maxim amongst the aerated water manufacturers in the south.

KALI AERATED WATER WORKS

Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli, Trichy, Kumbakonam & Madurai.

The Sree Meenakshi Mills, Ltd.,

Madurai, Manaparai and Paravai.

Manufacturers of:

SINGLE YARN IN COUNTS 16S TO 80S AND CONE YARNS FOR WEAVING AND HOSIERY FACTORIES AND MULLS, LONGCLOTH, GADA, etc.

CAPITAL

Authorised	Rs. 60,00,000
Subscribed & Paid-up ...	Rs. 48,81,240

Spindles :

Madurai	40,084
Manaparai	28,412
Paravai	37,900
Power Looms at Madurai ...	144

Managing Agents:

THIAGARAJA CHETTY & CO.,

Tirupparankundram Road, Madurai.

South India

Phone No. 1 (4 Lines) Post Box No. 1 Tel. 'KARUMUTTU'

The South Indian Cultural Society

OBJECTS

1. To create and foster a spirit of fellowship among the peoples of the world through a study of Cultures of various peoples.

2. To promote the study and practice of the Ancient Culture of South India.

3. To take active interest in understanding the Culture of the other peoples of the world.

4. To provide opportunities for those who are interested in studying and understanding the Culture of South India.

5. To publish books and pamphlets in as many languages as possible, and to arrange Cultural exhibitions.